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CLERK US DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIABY [Signature] DEPUTY

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'08 CV 1345 LAB AJB

16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
17 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

18 SEPPER TORABI d/b/a/ PROTEC AUTO,  
19 on Behalf of Himself and All Others  
20 Similarly Situated,

21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 CHAMPION LABORATORIES, INC.,  
24 PUROLATOR FILTERS N.A., LLC,  
25 HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL, INC.,  
26 WIX FILTRATION CORP., THE  
27 DONALDSON COMPANY, BALDWIN  
28 FILTERS, INC, BOSCH USA, MANN +  
HUMMELL USA, INC.,  
ARVINMERITOR, INC. and JOHN DOE  
DEFENDANTS 1-100,

Defendants.

CASE NO.:

CLASS ACTION

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

BY FAX

1 Plaintiff, by his attorneys, brings this civil action for damages and injunctive relief on behalf  
2 of himself and all others similarly situated against the above-named Defendants, and demanding a  
3 trial by jury, complains and alleges as follows:

4 **I. NATURE OF ACTION**

5 1. This case involves an anticompetitive conspiracy by Defendants or their  
6 predecessors, controlled subsidiaries, or affiliates to raise, fix, maintain, and/or stabilize prices in  
7 the United States markets for replacement oil, air, fuel and transmission filters ("Filters").

8 2. Filters are utilized to remove contaminants from combustion engines and related  
9 systems. Oil filters remove contaminants from the motor oil used to lubricate an engine's pistons;  
10 fuel filters primarily screen dirt and rust particles from an engine's fuel lines; air filters prevent  
11 particulate matter from entering an engine's cylinders; and transmission filters ensure the proper  
12 functioning of an engine's hydraulic and transmission systems.

13 3. Filters become less effective over time as contaminants are filtered out of the  
14 respective engine systems, and they are designed to be replaced periodically. As previously noted,  
15 this case involves a conspiracy which affected the markets for replacement Filters. Replacement  
16 Filters are purchased to replace original equipment filters.

17 4. Filters are primarily purchased from vendors of automotive parts.

18 5. This case arises in part from a sworn affidavit executed on March 25, 2008 by a  
19 former employee of two of the Defendants in litigation pending in the Southern District of Illinois  
20 against Defendant Champion. Champion Laboratories, Inc. v. Burch, 06-CV-4031 (JPG) (S.D. Ill.).  
21 As described below, this affidavit and additional specific allegations detail Defendants' price-fixing  
22 conspiracy. (A copy of the affidavit is attached hereto as exhibit "A.").

23 6. Many of the allegations contained herein, particularly those with respect to the  
24 specifics of a meeting between the Defendants, are based on alleged recorded conversations and the  
25 personal knowledge of this former employee, a former National Accounts and Division Sales  
26 Manager of Defendant Champion.

1           7.     Upon information and belief, this former employee will testify that Defendants  
2 conspired and agreed to coordinate prices, rig bids, and allocate customers from at least January 1,  
3 1999 to the present (the "Class Period").

4           8.     As a Division Sales Manager responsible for monitoring and coordinating terms of  
5 sales, the former employee was privy to, among other things, exchanges of confidential pricing  
6 materials by which Defendants unlawfully agreed to the timing and magnitude of price increases  
7 throughout the Class Period.

8           9.     Because of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and the other members of the  
9 Class defined below paid artificially inflated prices for Filters, thereby suffering antitrust injury to  
10 their business and property.

## 11                                   II.    JURISDICTION AND VENUE

12           10.    This complaint is filed under Section 16 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. §26) to obtain  
13 injunctive relief for violations of Section 1 of the Serman Act (15 U.S.C. §1), to recover damages  
14 under state antitrust and consumer protection laws, and to recover the costs of suit, including  
15 reasonable attorneys' fess, for the injuries that Plaintiff and all others similarly situated sustained as  
16 a result of the Defendants' violations of those laws.

17           11.    The Court has jurisdiction over the federal claim under 28 U.S.C. §§1331 and 1337.  
18 The Court has jurisdiction over the state law claims under 28 U.S.C. §§1367 because those claims  
19 are so related to the federal claim that they form part of the same case or controversy. The Court  
20 also has jurisdiction over the state law claims under 28 U.S.C. §1332 because the amount in  
21 controversy for the Class exceeds \$5,000,000, and there are members of the Class who are citizens  
22 of a different state than Defendants.

23           12.    Venue is proper in this District under 15 U.S.C. §22 and 28 U.S.C. §1391 because  
24 Defendants transact business within this District, and a substantial part of the events giving rise to  
25 the claims arose in this District.

26           13.    The activities of Defendants and their co-conspirators, as described herein, were  
27 within the flow of, were intended to have a substantial effect on, and did have a substantial effect on  
28 the foreign and interstate commerce of the United States.

**II. PARTIES**

**A. PLAINTIFF**

14. Plaintiff Sepher Torabi, d/b/a Protec Auto, a California resident, indirectly purchased Filters from one or more of the Defendants during the Class Period, for end use and not for resale, and was injured as a result of Defendants' illegal conduct.

**B. DEFENDANTS**

15. Defendant Champion Laboratories, Inc. ("Champion") is a corporation headquartered at 200 S. Fourth Street, Albion, Illinois 62806.

16. Defendant Purolator Filters N.A., LLC, is a corporation headquartered in Fayetteville, North Carolina with a mailing address listed with the North Carolina Secretary of State as 2800 South 25th Avenue, Broadview, Illinois 60565. Purolator Filters N.A., LLC is a joint venture between Bosch USA and Mann + Hummel USA, Inc.

17. Defendant Bosch USA is headquartered at 2800 S. 25th Avenue, Broadview, Illinois 60155.

18. Defendant Mann + Hummel USA, Inc. is headquartered at 6400 S. Sprinkle Road, Portage, Michigan 49002.

19. Defendant ArvinMeritor, Inc. is headquartered at 2135 West Maple Road, Troy, Michigan 48084. ArvinMeritor, Inc. owned Purolator Filters N.A., LLC from January 1999 through March 2006, at which point it sold Purolator Filters N.A., LLC to Bosch USA and Mann + Hummel USA, Inc. Purolator Filters N.A., LLC, Bosch USA, Mann + Hummel USA, Inc., and ArvinMeritor, Inc. are hereinafter collectively referred to as "Purolator."

20. Defendant Honeywell International is headquartered at 101 Columbia Road, Morristown, New Jersey, 07962.

21. Defendant Wix Filtration Corp., LLC ("Wix") is headquartered in Gastonia, North Carolina and has a mailing address of 1101 Technology Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108.

22. Defendant Honeywell International, Inc. ("Honeywell") is headquartered at 101 Columbia Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07962.

23. Defendant Cummins Filtration, Inc. ("Cummins") is headquartered at 2931 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37214.

24. Defendant The Donaldson Company ("Donaldson") is a corporation headquartered at 1400 W 94th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55431.

25. Defendant Baldwin Filters, Inc. ("Baldwin") is headquartered at 4400 E Highway 30, Kearney, Nebraska 68848.

#### IV. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

26. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, as a class action under Rules 23(a), 23(b)(2), and 23(b)(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Plaintiff represents three separate classes, defined as:

a. The "Nationwide Class": All persons who purchased Filters in the United States indirectly and not for resale from the Defendants or any of their parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, or predecessors in interest, at any time during the period from January 1, 1999 through and until the date the illegal conduct ceases.

b. The "Antitrust Damages Class": All persons or entities who purchased Filters in any of the following States indirectly and not for resale from the Defendants or any of their parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, or predecessors in interest, at any time during the period from January 1, 1999 through and until the date the illegal conduct ceases: Alabama, Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin (the "Antitrust Damages Class Jurisdictions").

c. The "Consumer Protection Class": All persons or entities who purchased Filters in any of the following States indirectly and not for resale from the Defendants or any of their parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, or predecessors in interest, at any time during the period from January 1, 1999 through and until the date the illegal conduct ceases: Alaska, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming (the "Consumer Protection Class Jurisdictions").

Collectively, the Nationwide Class, the Antitrust Damages Class, and the Consumer Protection Class are referred to as the "Classes." Excluded from the Classes are Defendants, their officers, directors, management, employees, subsidiaries, or affiliates and all entities owned by the federal government. Members of the Classes are collectively referred to as the "Class Members."

1           27. Each Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Due to the  
2 nature of the trade or the commerce involved, Plaintiff believes that the members of the Class are  
3 geographically dispersed throughout the United States, and that joinder of all Class Members would  
4 be impracticable. While the exact number of Class Members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time,  
5 Plaintiff believes that there are, at least, thousands of members of the Classes and that their  
6 identities can be learned from Defendants' and their co-conspirators' books and records.

7           28. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Classes.  
8 Plaintiff and members of the Classes purchased Filters at artificially maintained, non-competitive  
9 prices established by the actions of Defendants and their unnamed co-conspirators in connection  
10 with the restraint of trade alleged herein. Plaintiff and members of the Classes have all sustained  
11 damage in that they paid inflated prices for the Filters due to Defendants' conduct in violation of  
12 state and federal law as complained of herein.

13           29. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class Members and has  
14 retained counsel competent and experienced in class action and antitrust litigation.

15           30. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all Class Members which predominate  
16 over any questions affecting solely individual members of the Classes. Among the questions of law  
17 and fact common to the Classes are:

- 18           a. Whether Defendants and their co-conspirators engaged in a conspiracy to fix, raise,  
19 maintain, or stabilize the price of Filters;  
20           b. Whether the combination or conspiracy caused the price of Filters to be higher than  
21 they would have been absent Defendants' conduct;  
22           c. Whether Defendants undertook actions to conceal the unlawful conspiracies,  
23 contracts, or combinations described herein;  
24           d. Whether Defendants' conduct violated the relevant antitrust laws, consumer  
25 protection laws, and common law; and  
26           e. Whether Defendants conduct caused injury to the business and property of Plaintiff  
27 and the Classes and, if so, the proper measure of damages.  
28

31. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all Class Members is impracticable. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class Members would impose heavy burdens upon the courts and Defendants, and would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications of the questions of law and fact common to the Classes. A class action, on the other hand, will achieve substantial economies of time, effort, and expense, and would assure uniformity of decision as to persons similarly situated without sacrificing procedural fairness or bringing about other undesirable results.

32. The interest of Class Members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate actions is theoretical rather than practical. The Classes have a high degree of cohesion, and prosecution of the action through representatives would be unobjectionable. The amounts at stake for Class Members, while substantial in the aggregate, are not great enough individually to enable them to maintain separate suits against Defendants. Plaintiff does not anticipate any difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

## V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

## A. OVERVIEW OF THE FILTERS MARKET

33. Oil, air, fuel, and transmission filters are primarily sold in two separate channels: (i) to Original Equipment Manufacturers (“OEM”) and (ii) to aftermarket sellers of replacement Filters (“Aftermarket Sellers”).

34. OEMs purchase filters for use in connection with new vehicles. These filters are installed in vehicles during the production process.

35. Aftermarket Sellers purchase Filters directly from Defendants for wholesale or retail sale to the public, either (i) in connection with professional services rendered to an indirect purchaser (for example, an oil filter sold to a customer as part of an oil change) or (ii) for individuals to replace their own filters.

36. Defendants are the primary manufacturers of Filters purchased by Aftermarket Sellers, and this litigation involves a conspiracy to fix the prices for replacement Filters bought by these direct purchasers and sold to indirect purchasers.



1           37. The United States Filters markets are highly concentrated, with just a handful of  
 2 major producers manufacturing and producing these products. This concentration, as well as  
 3 interlocking business arrangements, assisted Defendants in successfully implementing their  
 4 conspiracy. For example, in April 2006, Defendant ArvinMeritor sold Defendant Purolator to  
 5 Defendants Bosch and Mann + Hammel. Defendants Bosch and Mann now operate Defendant  
 6 Purolator as a joint venture. Mann + Hummel CEO Dieter Seipler has stated that "it was a natural  
 7 alliance because Bosch is a major private-brand customer for Mann + Hummel in Europe and in  
 8 other regions of the world."

9           38. Annual revenues for Filters markets in the United States are approximately \$3 billion  
 10 to \$5 billion.

#### 11           **B. DEFENDANTS' UNLAWFUL CONDUCT**

12           39. Beginning at least as early as January 1, 1999 and continuing thereafter, Defendants  
 13 and their co-conspirators participated in a continuing agreement, combination, and conspiracy to  
 14 artificially fix, raise, maintain, or stabilize prices for Filters in the United States. Defendants acted in  
 15 furtherance of their scheme by, among other things, (i) having their officers and/or representatives  
 16 meet at industry trade shows and other locations to set prices and (ii) exchanging confidential  
 17 information regarding pricing.

18           40. As a result of their unlawful actions, Defendants were able to force coordinated price  
 19 increases on the Filters markets.

20           41. Defendants' unlawful conduct took many forms, including, but not limited to:

- 21           a. attending meetings and/or otherwise exchanging information regarding the pricing
- 22           and sale of Filters;
- 23           b. selling Filters to customers at collusive and non-competitive prices;
- 24           c. agreeing to sell Filters at specified, pre-arranged prices;
- 25           d. agreeing not to compete for each other's customers;
- 26           e. accepting payment at non-competitive prices;
- 27           f. giving actual and/or apparent authority to employees' participation in furtherance of
- 28           the wrongful conduct; and



1 b. fraudulently concealing the wrongful conduct.

2 42. Specific allegations of Defendants' unlawful conduct include, but are not limited to:

3 a. On June 28, 1999 a Purolator executive faxed an executive at Honeywell a letter  
4 which announced a 6% increase on all Purolator-branded filters effective August 15, 1999,  
5 but did not send a price increase notification to Purolator's customers until July 1999.

6 b. At a trade convention called the Heritage Show in May 1999, representatives of  
7 Defendants agreed in person, on behalf of their respective employers, to raise prices for  
8 Filters, and Defendants later raised prices in accordance with the wrongful agreements  
9 reached at the Heritage Show.

10 c. In February 2004, Champion's President informed his sales team that Champion was  
11 about to raise prices and told them to make sure Champion's "competitors" were aware of  
12 the increase and adjusted their prices accordingly, both in timing and amount, pursuant to  
13 wrongful agreements previously reached, which the employees accomplished by meeting  
14 with Defendants' representatives.

15 d. In 2004, an internal Champion e-mail with the subject line "Price Increases"  
16 confirmed that the other Defendants were in agreement regarding a coordinated price  
17 increase.

18 e. Pursuant to the unlawful agreement, Defendants each instituted similar price  
19 increases, in amounts of approximately 4-6%, at the same times.

20 43. Upon information and belief, Defendants engaged in repeated in-person meetings to  
21 further their anti-competitive scheme. Many of these meetings occurred at the annual Filter  
22 Manufacturers Council Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee. The Filter Manufacturers Council is a  
23 trade organization comprised of Defendants and other industry participants.

24 44. On January 19, 2006, William G. Burch, a former employee of both Purolator N.A.,  
25 LLC and Champion Laboratories, Inc. ("Champion"), filed a complaint against Champion in state  
26 court in Tulsa, Oklahoma alleging, among other things, that Mr. Burch was wrongfully terminated  
27 from his employment with Champion for knowing about, and subsequently reporting to authorities,  
28 the antitrust violations alleged in the Pending Actions. This complaint was removed to federal court

1 and then transferred to Illinois for consolidation with a subsequently filed action, Champion Labs.,  
 2 Inc. v. Burch, 06-CV-4031 (JPG) (S.D. Ill.), which is currently set for trial in September 2008.

3 45. On March 25, 2008, Burch, a former National Accounts and Division Sales Manager  
 4 for Defendant Champion, executed an Affidavit under oath in connection with the Champion Labs  
 5 case. This affidavit, which was made on the basis of personal knowledge, stated as follows:

6 a. Burch "became aware that Champion was involved with their competitors in  
 7 activities that constitute price-fixing. For example, Champion provided information  
 8 concerning price increases to competitors before it provided that information to consumers  
 9 or to the general public. Champion was also given advance information about price increases  
 10 by its competitors. Further information is set forth accurately and in detail in the mediation  
 11 statement dated September 21, 2007, that I understand will be filed under seal in this case."

12 b. Burch also stated that "[d]uring the time I worked for Champion, I was directed by  
 13 Champion to conduct discussions regarding 'pricing' with employees of competitors of  
 14 Champion. I refused to conduct those discussions."

15 46. Defendants' wrongful conduct in manipulating prices was undertaken in order to  
 16 charge artificially inflated prices for Filters.

17 47. Defendants' wrongful conduct deprived Plaintiff and Class Members of the ability to  
 18 transfer their business in response to price increases.

19 48. Had Defendants not engaged in the illegal conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff and the  
 20 Class Members would have been able to purchase Filters that were competitively priced.

## 21 **V. TRADE AND COMMERCE**

22 49. Throughout the Class Period, there has been a continuous and uninterrupted flow of  
 23 transactions in and shipments of Filters in interstate commerce throughout California and the United  
 24 States.

25 50. The unlawful activities of Defendants and the unnamed co-conspirators have been  
 26 within the flow of, and have had a substantial and reasonably foreseeable effect on California  
 27 commerce.

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**VI. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION**

51. Defendants' unlawful conduct has stifled competition in Filters markets and has had a direct, substantial, and adverse effect on competition by artificially increasing prices and stifling innovation in California and the United States.

**VII. CO-CONSPIRATORS**

52. Defendants John Doe 1-100 are presently not ascertainable by Plaintiff and their true identities are within the exclusive knowledge of Defendants. The Complaint in this action will be amended when their true identities are known.

53. The acts alleged in this Complaint have been performed by Defendants and their co-conspirators, or were authorized, ordered or completed by their respective officers, employees, or representatives, while actively engaged in the management of Defendants' companies.

54. Each of the Defendants named herein acted as an agent or trustee with respect to the acts, violations, and common course of conduct alleged herein.

**VIII. DAMAGES**

55. As a consequence of Defendants' antitrust violations, Plaintiff and the Classes have sustained substantial losses and damages to their property in the form of overcharges for Filters. Plaintiff and the Classes are threatened with further injury unless Defendants are enjoined from continuing the unlawful conduct alleged herein and from entering into any other combinations, conspiracies or agreements having similar purposes and effects. All Class Members were affected in the same manner by Defendants' anticompetitive conduct.

**IX. ALLEGATIONS OF ANTITRUST INJURY TO PLAINTIFF AND THE CLASSES**

56. Due to Defendants' price-fixing and market-allocation activities, Filters prices increased illegally in the United States despite fluctuations in the cost of production.

57. During the Class Period, Filters prices in the United States did not follow the laws of supply and demand existing in competitive markets.

1           58. Defendants' arrangement, contract, or agreement to fix, raise, maintain, or stabilize  
2 the prices of Filters marketed, distributed, or sold in the United States and to manipulate and  
3 allocate the market for Filters marketed, distributed, or sold in the United States had the following  
4 effects:

5           a. The price of Filters indirectly purchased by Plaintiff and the Class Members was  
6 fixed, raised, maintained, and stabilized at inflated, artificial and non-competitive levels;

7           b. Plaintiff and the Class Members paid higher prices for Filters than they would have  
8 paid in the absence of the conspiracy alleged herein;

9           c. The actions of Defendants and their co-conspirators relating to price-fixing and  
10 market-allocation conspiracy were perpetrated against and affected commerce throughout the  
11 United States. Accordingly, the actions of Defendants and their co-conspirators substantially  
12 affected interstate commerce.

13           59. During the Class Period, Plaintiff and the Class Members indirectly purchased  
14 millions of dollars of Filters from Defendants. By reason of Defendants' violations of the Cartwright  
15 Act, Plaintiff and the Class Members paid significantly more for Filters than they would have paid  
16 in the absence of Defendants' illegal combination and conspiracy, and, as a result, Plaintiff and the  
17 Class Members were injured and have suffered damages in an amount presently undetermined.

18           **X. FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT AND EQUITABLE TOLLING**

19           60. Defendants fraudulently concealed their participation in the conspiracy alleged herein  
20 by, among other things, engaging in secret meetings and communications in furtherance of the  
21 conspiracy, and by holding themselves out as competitors to the public, to Plaintiff, and to the  
22 Classes. Because of such fraudulent concealment, and the fact that a price fixing conspiracy is  
23 inherently self-concealing, Plaintiff and the Classes could not have discovered the existence of the  
24 conspiracy any earlier than its public disclosure.

25           61. Defendants and their co-conspirators actively, intentionally, and fraudulently  
26 concealed the existence of the arrangement, contract or agreement to fix, raise, maintain or stabilize  
27 the prices of Filters marketed, distributed or sold in the United States and to manipulate and allocate  
28 the market for Filters distributed, marketed or sold in the United States. As a result of Defendants'

1 active, intentional, and fraudulent concealment, Plaintiff alleges that the statute of limitations  
2 governing this action has been tolled.

3 **XI. CAUSES OF ACTION**

4 **COUNT ONE:**

5 **VIOLATION OF SECTION 1 OF THE SHERMAN ACT**

6 62. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous allegations in this  
7 Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully stated herein.

8 63. Beginning at a time presently unknown to Plaintiff, but at least as early as January 1,  
9 1999 and continuing through the present, Defendants and their co-conspirators entered into a  
10 continuing agreement, understanding, and conspiracy in restraint of trade to artificially raise, fix,  
11 maintain, and/or stabilize prices for Filters in the United States, in violation of Section 1 of the  
12 Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. §1).

13 64. In formulating and carrying out the alleged agreement, understanding, and  
14 conspiracy, the Defendants and their co-conspirators did those things that they combined and  
15 conspired to do, including but not limited to the acts, practices, and course of conduct set forth  
16 above, in order to fix, raise, maintain, and stabilize the price of Filters.

17 65. The combination and conspiracy alleged herein has had the following effects, among  
18 others:

19 a. Price competition for the sale of Filters has been restrained, suppressed, and/or  
20 eliminated in the United States;

21 b. Prices for Filters sold by Defendants and their co-conspirators have been fixed,  
22 raised, maintained, and stabilized at artificially high, non-competitive levels throughout the  
23 United States; and

24 c. Those who purchased Filters directly or indirectly from Defendants and their co-  
25 conspirators have been deprived of the benefits of free and open competition.

26 66. Plaintiff has been injured and will continue to be injured by paying more for Filters  
27 purchased indirectly from the Defendants and their co-conspirators than he would have paid and  
28 will pay in the absence of the combination and conspiracy.

3 COUNT TWO:

5           68. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous allegations in this  
6 Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully stated herein.

69. The foregoing conduct of Defendants was directed at indirect purchasers in California and has substantially affected trade and commerce in California.

71. The aforesaid violations of Section 16720, California Business and Professions Code, consisted, without limitation, of a continuing unlawful trust and concert of action among the Defendants and their co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were to fix, raise, maintain and stabilize the prices of, and to allocate markets for, Filters.

23 73. The combination and conspiracy alleged herein has had the following effects, among  
24 others:

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28

1 b. Prices for Filters sold by Defendants and their co-conspirators have been fixed,  
2 raised, maintained, and stabilized at artificially high, non-competitive levels throughout  
3 California; and

4 c. Those who purchased Filters directly or indirectly from Defendants and their co-  
5 conspirators have been deprived of the benefits of free and open competition.

6 74. Plaintiff and the other members of the Antitrust Damages Class paid supra-  
7 competitive, artificially inflated prices for Filters.

8 75. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff and the  
9 members of the Antitrust Damages Class have been injured in their business and property in that  
10 they paid more for Filters than they otherwise would have paid in the absence of Defendants'  
11 unlawful conduct. As a result of Defendants' violation of Section 16720 of the California Business  
12 and Professions Code, Plaintiff seeks treble damages and the costs of suit, including reasonable  
13 attorneys' fees, pursuant to Section 16750(a) of the California Business and Professions Code.

14 **COUNT THREE:**

15 **VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW**

16 76. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous allegations in this  
17 Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully stated herein.

18 77. The foregoing conduct of Defendants was directed at indirect purchasers in  
19 California and has substantially affected trade and commerce in California.

20 78. Beginning on a date unknown to Plaintiff, but at least as early as January 1, 1999,  
21 and continuing thereafter at least up through the present, Defendants committed and continue to  
22 commit acts of unfair competition, as defined by Section 17200, et seq. of the California Business  
23 and Professions Code, by engaging in the acts and practices specified above.

24 79. This Claim is instituted pursuant to Sections 17203 and 17204 of the California  
25 Business and Professions Code, to obtain restitution from these Defendants for acts, as alleged  
26 herein, that violated Section 17200 of the California Business and Professions Code, commonly  
27 known as the Unfair Competition Law.

28



1       80.     The Defendants' conduct as alleged herein violated Section 17200 of the California  
2 Business and Professions Code. The acts, omissions, misrepresentations, practices and non-  
3 disclosures of Defendants, as alleged herein, constituted a common continuous and continuing  
4 course of conduct of unfair competition by means of unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent business  
5 acts or practices within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code, Section 17200, et  
6 seq., including, but not limited to:

- 7       a.     The violations of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, as set forth above;
- 8       b.     The violations of Section 16720, et seq., of the California Business and Professions  
9 Code, as set forth above;
- 10      c.     Defendants acts, omission, misrepresentations, practices, and non-disclosures, as  
11 described above, whether or not in violation of Section 16720, et seq. of the California  
12 Business and Professions Code, and whether or not Defendants' concerted or independent  
13 acts are otherwise unfair, unconscionable, unlawful, or fraudulent.
- 14      d.     Defendants' acts and practices are unfair to consumers of Filters in the State of  
15 California within the meaning of Section 17200 of the California Business and Professions  
16 Code; and
- 17      e.     Defendants' acts and practices are fraudulent or deceptive within the meaning of  
18 Section 17200 of the California Business and Professions Code.

19       81.     Plaintiff and each of the Consumer Protection Class members are entitled to full  
20 restitution and/or disgorgement of all revenues, earnings, profits, compensation, and benefits which  
21 may have been obtained by Defendants as a result of such business acts or practices.

22       82.     The illegal conduct alleged herein is continuing and there is no indication that  
23 Defendants will not continue such activity into the future.

24       83.     The unlawful and unfair business practices of Defendants, and each of them, as  
25 described above, have caused and continue to cause Plaintiff and the members of the Consumer  
26 Protection Class to pay supra-competitive and artificially inflated prices for Filters. Plaintiff and  
27 members of the Consumer Protection Class suffered injury in fact and lost money or property as a  
28 result of such unfair competition.

84. The conduct of Defendants as alleged in this Complaint violates Section 17200 of the California Business and Professions Code.

85. As alleged in this Complaint, Defendants and their co-conspirators have been unjustly enriched as a result of their wrongful conduct and by Defendants' unfair competition. Plaintiff and the members of the Class are accordingly entitled to equitable relief including restitution and/or disgorgement of all revenues, earnings, profits, compensation, and benefits which may have been obtained by Defendants as a result of such business practices, pursuant to the California Business and Professions Code, Section 17203 and 17204.

**COUNT FOUR:**

## **VIOLATION OF STATE ANTITRUST AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAWS**

86. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous allegations in this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully stated herein.

87. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Alabama Code §§6-5-60 et seq. and §§8-10-1 et seq.

88. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Arizona Rev. Stat. §44-1401 et seq.

89. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of District of Columbia Code Ann. §§28-4501 et seq.

90. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. §§480-1 et seq.

91. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Iowa Code Ch. 553, §§553.1 et seq.

92. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Kansas Stat. Ann. §§50-101 et seq. and §§50-801 et seq.

93. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Maine Rev. Stat. Ann. 10, §§1101 et seq.

94. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of trade in violation of Michigan Comp. Laws Ann. §§445.771 et seq.

1           95. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
2 trade in violation of Minnesota Stat. §§325D.49 – 325D.66.

3           96. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
4 trade in violation of Mississippi Code Ann. §§ 75-21-1 et seq. and §§75-24-1 et seq.

5           97. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
6 trade in violation of Nebraska Rev. Stat. §§59-801 et seq.

7           98. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
8 trade in violation of Nevada Rev. Stat. Ann. §§598A et seq.

9           99. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
10 trade in violation of New Jersey S.A. §56:8-1 et seq.

11           100. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
12 trade in violation of New Mexico Stat. Ann. §§57-1-1 et seq.

13           101. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
14 trade in violation of North Carolina Gen. Stat. §§75-1, 75-1.1, and 75-2.

15           102. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
16 trade in violation of North Dakota Cent. Code §§51-08.1-01 et seq.

17           103. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
18 trade in violation of Pennsylvania common law.

19           104. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
20 trade in violation of South Dakota Codified Laws Ann. §§37-1 et seq.

21           105. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
22 trade in violation of Tennessee Code Ann. §§47-25-101 et seq.

23           106. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
24 trade in violation of Vermont Stat. Ann. Title 9, Ch. 63 §§2453 et seq.

25           107. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
26 trade in violation of West Virginia Code §§47-18-1 et seq.

27           108. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have entered into agreements in restraint of  
28 trade in violation of Wisconsin Stat. Ann. §§133.01 et seq.

1           109. Antitrust Damages Class members in each of the states listed above paid supra-  
 2 competitive, artificially inflated prices for Filters. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants'  
 3 unlawful conduct, such members of the Antitrust Damages Class have been injured in their business  
 4 and property in that they paid more for Filters than they otherwise would have paid in the absence of  
 5 Defendants' unlawful conduct.

6  
 7                                   **COUNT FIVE:**  
 8                                   **VIOLATION OF STATE CONSUMER PROTECTION**  
 9                                   **AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAWS**

10           110. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous allegations in this  
 11 Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully stated herein.

12           111. Defendants engaged in unfair competition or unfair, unconscionable, deceptive or  
 13 fraudulent acts or practices in violation of the state consumer protection and unfair competition  
 14 statutes listed below.

15           112. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 16 practices in violation of Alaska Stat. §§45.50.471 et seq.

17           113. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 18 practices in violation of Arkansas Code §§4-88-101 et seq.

19           114. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 20 practices in violation of District of Columbia Code §§28-3901 et seq.

21           115. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 22 practices in violation of Florida Stat. §§501.201 et seq.

23           116. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 24 practices in violation of Hawaii Rev. Stat. §§480 et seq.

25           117. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 26 practices in violation of Idaho Code §§48-601 et seq.

27           118. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
 28 practices in violation of Kansas Stat. §§50-623 et seq.

1           119. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
2 practices in violation of Louisiana Rev. Stat. §§51:1401 et seq.

3           120. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
4 practices in violation of 5 Maine Rev. Stat. §§207 et seq.

5           121. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
6 practices in violation of Montana Code §§30-14-101 et seq.

7           122. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
8 practices in violation of Nebraska Rev. Stat. §§59-1601 et seq.

9           123. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
10 practices in violation of New Mexico Stat. §§57-12-1 et seq.

11           124. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
12 practices in violation of New York Gen. Bus. Law §§349 et seq.

13           125. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
14 practices in violation of North Carolina Gen. Stat. §§75-1.1 et seq.

15           126. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
16 practices in violation of Oregon Rev. Stat. §§646.605 et seq.

17           127. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
18 practices in violation of Rhode Island Gen. Laws §§6-13.1-1 et seq.

19           128. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
20 practices in violation of South Carolina Code Laws §§39-5-10 et seq.

21           129. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
22 practices in violation of Utah Code §§13-11-1 et seq.

23           130. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
24 practices in violation of 9 Vermont §§2451 et seq.

25           131. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
26 practices in violation of West Virginia Code §§46A-6-101 et seq.

27           132. Defendants have engaged in unfair competition or unfair or deceptive acts or  
28 practices in violation of Wyoming Stat. §40-12-105.

## UNJUST ENRICHMENT AND DISGORGEMENT OF PROFITS

135. Defendants have been unjustly enriched through overpayments by Plaintiff and the Nationwide Class members and the resulting profits.

137. Plaintiff seeks disgorgement of all profits resulting from such overpayments and establishment of a constructive trust from which Plaintiff and Nationwide Class members may seek restitution.

**WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows:**

B. That this Court declare, adjudge and decree that Defendants have committed violations of federal and state antitrust laws and common law as alleged herein;

C. That Defendants be enjoined from continuing to violate federal antitrust laws as alleged herein;

1 D. That Plaintiff and the Classes recover damages, as provided by the applicable  
2 statutes;

3 E. That Plaintiff and the Classes recover their costs of the suit; and

4 F. That the Court award such other and further relief as it deems just and proper.

5 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

6 Plaintiff demands a jury trial in this action for all the claims so triable.

7  
8 Dated: July 25, 2008

Michael D. Braun  
BRAUN LAW GROUP, P.C.

9  
10 By: 

Michael D. Braun  
12304 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Suite 109  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
Tel: (310) 442-7755  
Fax: (310) 442-7756

11  
12  
13  
14 ***Liaison Counsel for Plaintiff and the Putative Class***

15 Brian D. Brooks  
16 MURRAY, FRANK & SAILER LLP  
275 Madison Ave.,  
Suite 801  
17 New York, NY 10016-1101  
18 Tel: (212) 682-1818  
19 Fax: (212) 682-1892

20 **Counsel for Plaintiff and the Putative Class**



# **EXHIBIT A**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, BENTON DIVISION

CHAMPION LABORATORIES, INC, )  
a Delaware corporation, )  
 )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
vs. )  
 )  
WILLIAM G. BURCH, )  
 )  
Defendant. )

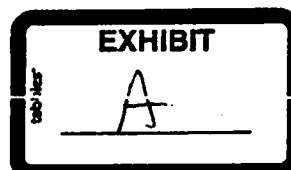
Case No.: 06-4031JPG

AFFIDAVIT OF WILLIAM G. BURCH

COUNTY OF TULSA )  
 ) ss.  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA )

WILLIAM G. BURCH, being of lawful age and first duly sworn, hereby deposes  
and states as follows:

1. This affidavit is made on the basis of direct personal knowledge.
2. I went to work for Champion Laboratories, Inc. ("Champion") in 1999 as National Accounts Manager. Later, my position was changed to Division Sales Manager.
3. During the time that I worked for Champion, I never had a written contract. I was always an "at will" employee.
4. During the time that I worked for Champion, I became aware that Champion was engaged in activities that violated federal law, Oklahoma law and Oklahoma public policy.
5. In particular, I became aware that Champion was involved in activities with Champion's competitors that constitute price-fixing. For example, Champion



provided information concerning price increases to competitors before it provided that information to consumers or to the general public. Champion was also given advance information about price increases by its competitors. Further information is set forth accurately and in detail in the mediation statement dated September 21, 2007, that I understand will be filed under seal in this case (the "Mediation Statement"). See Mediation Statement at 3-8.

6. In addition, I became aware that Champion was discriminating in price between different purchasers of commodities of like grade and quality. Further information is set forth accurately and in detail on pages 3-8 of the Mediation Statement.

7. During the time that I worked for Champion, I was directed by Champion to conduct discussions regarding "pricing" with employees of competitors of Champion. I refused to conduct those discussions. I objected to price discrimination being conducted by Champion. See Mediation Statement at 3-8.

8. Before I worked for Champion, I worked for Purolator Products Company ("Purolator"). See Mediation Statement at 3. In my employment negotiations with Champion, I talked with Champion's Senior Vice President (John Evans) and Sales Director (Al Henager). Evans and Henager told me that they would have to "work with me" to (a) give me a car allowance comparable to that paid by Purolator and (b) underwrite the expense of my small home office. They told me to make creative use of my expense account to cover the amount of my car payments and home office (approximately \$450.00 per month). While I was not comfortable with this arrangement, I thought that Evans and Henager were authorized to compensate me in whatever manner they saw fit. See Mediation Statement at 1.

9. On July 10, 2000, Henager came to Tulsa for dinner at my house. The sole purpose of his trip was to inspect my home office and to obtain receipts for the home office and the monthly car payment. Henager had dinner with my wife, my children and me and left Tulsa the next day. There were no customer meetings. No other company business was conducted. *See* Mediation Statement at 1.

10. I attempted to cover my home office expenses and my car allowance by submitting expense reports for imaginary drives to Bentonville, Arkansas. It was difficult to cover the expenses. I complained to Evans and Henager. *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

11. Eventually, Evans told me that he would personally make sure that I could directly purchase full fare air tickets without going through the Champion travel agent. This procedure—self-booking of airfare—was set up by Evans in direct violation of Champion's travel policy. That policy provided that: "The actual cost of air or land transportation will be allowed and should be secured through a travel agency approved by the corporation." *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

12. Evans' plan allowed me to drive to the customers, submit expense reports for flights I did not take, and pocket the difference, as needed, to cover non-reimbursed home office and car expenses. I complained to my wife and to my friend Pat Donica that I was never comfortable with the Evans' plan. *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

13. On January 13, 2006, I was called to Champion headquarters in Albion, Illinois. The ostensible purpose of the meeting was to have a meeting with Evans regarding my Firestone account. The people setting up the meeting told me twice to

bring my computer because of a new company software they wanted to install. *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

14. When I arrived at Champion headquarters for the meeting on January 13, 2006, I was surprised to meet with a controller from Champion and an FBI agent. The FBI agent immediately confronted me with allegations of embezzlement through my expense account. *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

15. I told the FBI agent that the activity with the expense accounts had been authorized by Champion employees—Evans and Henager. Disbelieving my explanation, the FBI agent asked what other illegal activities Champion had asked me to do. I told the FBI agent, "Well, there was the price fixing." At this point, the Champion controller turned white and ran from the room, leaving me alone with the FBI agent. *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

16. I asked the FBI agent what he would do if he were in my situation. He said that he "couldn't say." When I pressed further, the FBI agent said: "You know that computer of yours they want so bad? I wouldn't give them that because it appears they have bigger problems than you have." *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

17. I turned my computer and all its evidence over to the FBI on Wednesday, January 18, 2006. To my knowledge, the FBI still has the computer. *See* Mediation Statement at 2.

18. I have never been arrested for embezzlement.


19. Following the meeting on January 16, 2006, Champion terminated my employment.

20. As a result of my termination, I have lost salary and incurred expenses in an amount in excess of \$75,000.00.

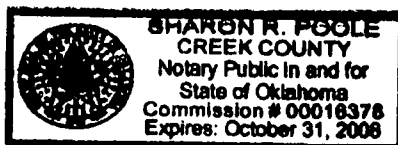
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

  
WILLIAM G. BURCH

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:



JS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

FILED ORIGINAL

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings and other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required to be filed with the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

## I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

SEPPER TORABI d/b/a/ PROTEC AUTO, on Behalf of Himself and All Others Similarly Situated,

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego  
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Michael D. Braun (167416); Braun Law Group, P.C.;  
12304 S. Monica Bl., #109, L.A., CA 90025; 310-442-7755

DEFENDANTS  
CHAMPION LABORATORIES, INC., PUROLATOR FILTERS  
N.A., LLC, (SEE ATTACHMENT A)

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant State of Illinois  
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

08 CV 1345 LAB AIB  
BY FAX

## II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff  
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant  
☒ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)  
☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

## III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- |   | PTF                        | DEF                        |   | PTF                        | DEF                        |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State     | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State                | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

## IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs. <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 <b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark <b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) <b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <b>Habeas Corpus:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition		

## V. ORIGIN

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding  
☐ 2 Removed from State Court  
☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court  
☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened  
☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify)  
☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation  
☐ 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

## VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  
 Sec. 16 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 26); Sec. 1 of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1)

Brief description of cause:  
 Antitrust issue.

## VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☒ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

DEMAND \$

Exceeds 5,000,000

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No

## VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

DATE

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

153378

MOUNT

\$350.00

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE

07/25/08



**ATTACHMENT A TO CIVIL COVER SHEET**

HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL, INC., WIX FILTRATION CORP., THE DONALDSON COMPANY, BALDWIN FILTERS, INC, BOSCH USA, MANN + HUMMELL USA, INC., ARVINMERITOR, INC. and JOHN DOE DEFENDANTS 1-100,

Defendants.

**UNITED STATES  
DISTRICT COURT**  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN DIEGO DIVISION

**# 153378 - MB**

**July 25, 2008  
13:00:46**

**Civ Fil Non-Pris**

USAO #.: 08CV1345 CIVIL FILING  
Judge.: LARRY A BURNS  
Amount.: \$350.00 CK  
Check#.: BC3028895

**Total-> \$350.00**

FROM: SEPHER TORABI DBA PROTEC AUTO  
VS CHAMPION LABORATORIES, ET A